couragement besides taking further confidence building measures. The Central Government is in constant touch with the State Government and representatives of the migrants in this regard.

Assistance Scheme for States for Drinking Water in Municipal Areas

3933. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to assist the State Government to provide drinking water facilities in Municipal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds released to Andhra Pradesh for the purpose during 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(d) the names of Municipalities which were benefited from such financial assistance in Andhra Pradesh during 1994-95 and 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 Census) has been introduced with effect from March, 1994. Under this programme cost between the Central and the State Government is shared in the ratio of 1:1.

(c) and (d) No proposal has so far been received from the State of Andhra Pradesh by the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment. In view of this, no funds have been released to Andhra Pradesh during 1994-95 and 1995-96.

UN Report on Scocio-Economic Condition of India

3934. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'India still amongest the poorest and socially impoverished: U.N. report' which appeared in the Times of India of the 17th July, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) what are Government's plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER ALAGH): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The news item pertains to Human Development Report 1996, published by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), The Report presents a number of indices that combine a measure of income with other social Indicators, to capture the level or human progress. There include the Human Development Index (HDI), the Gender related Development Index (GDI), the Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) and the Capability Poverty measure (CPM). The report notes that (i) India is ranked 135 out of a total of 174 countries on the HDI;

(ii) the CPM is estimated at 61.5 per cent of India's population;

(iii) at a disaggregated level the HDI and the Gender related Development Index reveals large disparities across regions; (iv) the real per capita income showed a significant improvement for India in the period since 1980; and (v) India is among the countries where income became more equitably distributed.

(c) and (d) Human development is the ultimate goal of the Eighth Five year Plan. It is towards this that employment generation. population control, literacy, education, health, drinking water and provision of adequate food and basic infrastructure are listed as priorities. The Common Minimum programme reiterates